Minor Irrigation Schemes

1239. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of Central assistance for Safe Stage Works and improvement of Minor Irrigation Schemes in Gujarat was submitted by the State Government of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No proposal by Government of Gujarat on Central assistance for Safe Stage Works and improvement of Minor Irrigation Schemes in Gujarat has been submitted to Government of India. However, during 2005-2006, Government of Gujarat has submitted 42 Nos. of water bodies under Pilot scheme, *viz.* "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in two districts *viz.* Sabarkantha (17 Water Bodies) and Banaskantha (25 water bodies). The estimated cost of above schemes is Rs. 655.14 lakh and Rs. 766.53 lakhs respectively and has been approved by the Government of India under the Pilot scheme. The Central Share of Rs. 2.654 crore and Rs. 3.10 crore has since been released for Sabarkantha and Banaskantha, respectively.

Integrated National project by Interlinking of rivers

†1240. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to announce an Integrated National Project by interlinking fourteen rivers of the country in order to control rising crisis of irrigation and power;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these fourteen rivers include those rivers also which are under international treaty;

(c) whether an important issue like flood control has not been included in this national project of fourteen rivers; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Government of India has decided to take up 14 projects as National Projects. Out of these 14 projects, 9 projects are on the international rivers/their tributaries. Further, one of the proposed National Projects namely, Ken-Betwa is river interlinking project.

(c) and (d) One of the National projects, namely, Upper Siang in Arunachal Pradesh envisages flood moderation benefits.

Sardar Sarovar Project

1241. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Sarovar Project is a multi-purpose project which will

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

benefit the four States *viz.*, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat by way of sharing of irrigation facilities and power generation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the project is facing acute shortage of funds which is hampering the completion of 101 Kms. stretch of Narmada Main Canal;

(c) whether the States have made a request to the Central Government for additional funds to ensure the completion of the project;

(d) if so, whether request of the State Government has been acceded to; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Sardar Sarovar Project is an inter-state multipurpose project on the river Narmada in Gujarat. It is a joint venture with sharing of irrigation and power from the project, among the partner States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view the need to accelerated the construction of Narmada Main Canal and distributaries for early development of irrigation facilities in the command area of the project, the Government of India has decided to include Sardar Sarovar Project under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Under this Programme, Government of India has released Central Loan Assistance (CLA)/grant of Rs. 4887.7385 crore from the financial year 1996-97 till date.

The project or project component could be included in the programme of Central financial assistance on the basis of proposals submitted by the State Government and eligibility of the project for inclusion in the programme as per eligibility criteria under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP).

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO US NO. 984 ANSWERED ON 21ST AUGUST, 2007

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I lay on the Table a Statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st August, 2007 to Unstarred Question 984 regarding "Amendment of Indian stamp Act".

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Prof. P.J. Kurien) in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 s a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue):